

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 NSCE-00

INR-07 INRE-00 CIAE-00 MMO-01 L-03 /048 R

DRAFTED BY:EA/P:WMAGRUDER:EB

APPROVED BY:EA/P:WMAGRUDER

DOD-LT COL JAMES BARR

EA/IMS-MR. SHEPARD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

CINCPACAF IMMEDIATE

CINCPACFLT IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

MAC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 205127

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, SN, US

SUBJECT: PA GUIDANCE-P-3 AND MAC FLIGHTS THROUGH
SINGAPORE

1.FOLLOWING GENERAL PRESS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED
REGARDING P-3 OVERFLIGHTS AND MAC FLIGHTS THROUGH
SINGAPORE. REQUEST EMBASSY'S VIEWS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION
WITH THE GOS. WE ALSO ASSUME THAT GOS WOULD PREFER
NOT TO TACKLE QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, AND THAT PRESS
QUERIES WHERE POSSIBLE SHOULD PREFERABLY NOT BE HANDLED
LOCALLY IN SINGAPORE. PLEASE CONFIRM.

2. PROPOSED PRESS GUIDANCE FOLLOWS. QUOTE...(S)
ANTICIPATE P-3 OVERFLIGHTS WILL BE COMMON KNOWLEDGE
SHORTY AFTER THEY ARE INITIATED. IF QUERIED, NOW MAY
ACKNOWLEDGE THAT OCCASIONAL ROUTINE P-3 OVERFLIGHTS ARE
TAKING PLACE OVER SINGAPORE. IF QUERIED ABOUT DETAILS OF
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THESE FLIGHTS, SUCH AS FREQUENCY, DESTINATION, PURPOSE,

YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT THESE ARE MARITIME SURVEILLANCE FLIGHTS AND DECLINE TO PROVIDE DETAILS. YOU MAY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IN SOME CASES THESE FLIGHTS WILL LAND AT DIEGO GARCIA.

3. (S) MAC SUPPLY FLIGHTS TRANSITING SINGAPORE WILL BE APPARENT TO GROUND OBSERVERS AND MUST BE PROMPTLY CONFIRMED IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERY. YOU MAY CONFIRM THAT THESE FLIGHTS ARE IN SUPPORT OF THE US FACILITIES AT DIEGO GARCIA. YOU MAY ALSO STATE THAT US MILITARY AIRCRAFT HAVE ROUTINELY TRANSITED SINGAPORE FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO AND FROM A NUMBER OF PLACES, DIEGO GARCIA BEING AMONG THEM. AVOID SPECIFICS ON FREQUENCY OF THE FLIGHTS AND USE ONLY GENERAL TERMS IN DESCRIBING CARGO DESTINED FOR THE ISLAND. QUESTIONS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS GUIDANCE SHOULD BE ACCEPTED AND REFERRED TO OASD (PA) FOR REPLY.

4. (U) UNCLAS DATA FROM FACT SHEETS ON P-3, C-141 AND C-130 MAY BE USED AS APPROPRIATE TO PORTRAY GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE AIRCRAFT IN RESPONSE TO QUERY.
END QUOTE.
KISSINGER

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NNN

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